BROADBANDUSA
CONNECTING AMERICA'S COMMUNITIES

Organization:	**Maryland Department of Information Technology**
Project Name:	**One Maryland Broadband Network (OMBN)**
Project Type:	**Comprehensive Community Infrastructure**
State:	**Maryland**
Federal Award:	**$115,240,581**

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Many of the less-populous, rural areas of Maryland, like the western panhandle and the eastern shore, lack the reliable and readily-available broadband service necessary for cutting-edge economic development, public safety, and remote education initiatives. The **State of Maryland Department of Information Technology** (DoIT), as part of a public-private consortium, plans to deploy the One Maryland Broadband Network to bring affordable and abundant broadband to each of Maryland's 24 counties. The OMBN was established to serve the broadband needs of the entire state. The project would link together and extend three independent networks: the state-run networkMaryland; the Inter-County Broadband Network (ICBN), a 10-county consortium; and the Maryland Broadband Cooperative (MdBC), a rural non-profit carrier. The nearly 650 miles of new fiber in the rural portions of the state would substantially improve public safety, government services, healthcare delivery, and education, offering community anchor institutions access speeds between 10 Mbps and 10 Gbps.

The One Maryland Broadband Network also proposes to:

- Connect 1,000 community anchor institutions, including as many as 450 K-12 schools, 40 libraries, 200 government facilities, 15 community colleges, six other institutions of higher learning, and two healthcare providers, with the capability to serve an additional 2,400 anchor institutions. The project would interconnect with educational hubs like the University of Maryland and its Academic Telecommunications System—to allow for peering with Internet2 and National Lambda Rail—and Coppin State University, a historically-Black college and BTOP Round One grantee.

- Construct over 1,200 miles of new fiber and incorporate over 2,400 miles of existing fiber to facilitate more affordable and accessible broadband service for almost 2 million households and 443,000 businesses by enabling local Internet service providers to utilize the project's open network.

- Provide direct fiber connections to approximately 260 public safety facilities in Maryland, enabling the upgrade to a Next Generation 911 system and improving interoperable communications, including a direct link with NCRnet, the 22-jurisdiction public safety network in the National Capital Region.

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

The Maryland Department of Information Technology was established by the state Legislature and Governor Martin O'Malley in 2008. The former Office of Information Technology within the Department of Budget and Management became a Cabinet-level agency committed to improving Maryland State Government through information technology initiatives and managing the Major Information Technology Development Fund.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Howard County Government
- Mid-Atlantic Crossroads (MAX)
- University System of Maryland
- Maryland Broadband Cooperative

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